

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

28 APR. 1962

~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Laos

The Thais have told Young that their talks with Phoumi and Boun Oum have caused the Laotian leaders to "change in a satisfactory direction." The Thais claim that the 7 May deadline set by the US has made an impact on the Laos, but they have as yet given no details. Meanwhile, Phoumi is moving another battalion to Nam Tha, giving him eight in position against a probable seven of the enemy.

2. Congo

The UN has presented to Adoula a new program of action for dealing with Tshombé and the Katanga problem. If further mediation efforts do not produce any signs of give in Tshombé, the UN proposes a series of economic and military pressures to be applied against Katanga during the next month. The military moves do not include the use of force against Katangan troops, but would greatly increase the danger of a "third round." U Thant is said to be keen on carrying out these measures before the Security Council meets on the Congo at the end of May, because he believes they go "considerably" beyond his mandate.

3. Soviet delegation
in Geneva overplays
hand

The Indian delegation says that some neutrals were thinking of walking out when the US resumed tests, but changed their minds when the Soviets tried to "take advantage of this movement." The Indians apparently turned down a Soviet request that they ask for an emergency General Assembly session and appear convinced that "the Soviet Union is eager to resume tests." [redacted] The UAR is also resisting Soviet pressure for such a meeting.

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4. West New Guinea

a. Foreign Minister Luns has reaffirmed his unwillingness to reply to the revised Bunker proposal until he sees Secretary Rusk on 5 May.

b. Sukarno's latest speech will probably ruffle Dutch sensibilities. Yesterday, on another tour accompanied by the foreign ambassadors (including Jones), he claimed that their presence was a demonstration of the support their countries are providing Indonesia 50X1 on The Issue.



5. Argentina

a. Guido's announcement last night that he has reappointed Alvaro Alsogaray as Minister of Economy will infuriate Argentine labor. Alsogaray, the author of Frondizi's austerity program, was forced out a year ago by popular discontent with his policies. His reappearance, while encouraging in what it means for Guido's policies, presages jostling between labor and financial circles.

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b. Although the Peronist leaders have announced cancellation of their plans for May Day, we are dubious about their sincerity.

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6. Temperature drops in Guatemalan crisis

Ydigoras, unable to persuade the non-Communist opposition to serve in his cabinet, has appointed a new one made up largely of military officers. This reaffirmation of military support puts a temporary quietus on opposition hopes that the armed forces would force Ydigoras' resignation.

7. Bolivian President's
campaign against Chile
may backfire

[REDACTED] the opposition is going
to try today to direct street demon-
strations against the government.
Demonstrators are expected to take to
the streets today to protest Chilean
use of the Lauca River and armed opposi-
tion elements hope to exploit them.

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NOTES

- A. We are unable to determine the present status of Sputnik XVI, launched from Tyura Tam on Thursday. What appeared to be a recovery operation yesterday morning was unsuccessful, and a similar one was conducted this morning. Preliminary information indicates that at least part of the vehicle was still in orbit after the activity today. [REDACTED] 50X1
- B. The new East German customs law becomes effective Monday. We do not expect a serious attempt immediately to interfere with West German-West Berlin trade.
- C. We are getting a number of indications of public dissatisfaction in Czechoslovakia over food supply, although we cannot confirm any overt demonstrations. [REDACTED] 50X1
- D. The Chinese Communists are celebrating issuance of the 200th "Serious Warning." Incorporated in their broadcast recapitulation of charges against the United States and the Nationalists is their first statement that the Nationalists are using the U-2 for reconnaissance of the mainland. The Communists have been making very intensive efforts to intercept these missions, but so far have not come close. [REDACTED] 50X1
- E. The arrangements for use of a few South Korean specialists in South Vietnam are going forward, with the first group scheduled to arrive in mid-May. [REDACTED] 50X1
- F. The Dominican government is about to begin a "purge"--probably gentle and gradual--of officers closely connected with the Trujillos. There is some chance that the officers ticketed for removal might try a coup.

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

I.

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II.

III.

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE